ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #51 Summer Announcement #47, Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, Subsistence Fishing and Subdistrict C Personal Use Fishing Closures

Districts Affected: Upper Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 109,600 Chinook salmon through July 7 is well below the historical average of 133,500 for this date. Poor Chinook salmon escapement in the Chena River in recent years warrant continued caution.

Based on the current run assessment and in accordance with new regulations adopted by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, subsistence fishing will be closed to protect the first pulse of Chinook salmon in the Tanana River. The closure has been implemented in District 1 through Subdistricts 5-A, B, C and is being similarly implemented in District 6 based on migratory timing.

Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B (from the mouth of the Tanana River upstream to the downstream mouth of Wood River, which includes the communities of Manley, Minto, and Nenana):

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 noon Wednesday and from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 12:00 noon Sundays, and fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.

Effective 12:00 noon Wednesday, July 10, subsistence fishing will close and remain closed during the next subsistence salmon fishing period which was scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. Friday, July 12, to conserve Chinook salmon. The subsistence fishing schedule in Subdistricts 6-A and 6-B will resume beginning 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15.

Old Minto Area

Subsistence salmon fishing in Old Minto area is on a schedule of 5 days a week, from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, and fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.

Effective 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 10, subsistence fishing will close and remain closed until 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15, in the Old Minto Area. Subsistence salmon fishing in the Old Minto Area will reopen for the remainder of the scheduled period from 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 15, until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 17.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required to fish for salmon in the Tanana River drainage. Permits are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Fairbanks. Subsistence fishermen fishing in Subdistrict 6-B three miles upstream of the mouth of Totchaket Slough are required to report their harvest catches to the department by **4:30 PM Thursday** each week by contacting the department at **(907) 459-7388**. When you call, provide your name, permit number, fishing location, and daily catch by species for that week.

Subdistricts 6-C (from the mouth of the Wood River upstream to the downstream mouth of the Salcha River, which includes the communities of Fairbanks, North Pole, and Salcha):

Personal use salmon fishing in Subdistrict 6-C consists of two 42-hour periods each week, from 6:00 p.m. Mondays until 12:00 noon Wednesday and from 6:00 p.m. Fridays until 12:00 noon Sundays, and fishermen may use gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.

Effective 12:00 noon Wednesday, July 10, personal use salmon fishing in Subdistrict 6-C will close and remain closed until further notice to conserve Chinook salmon.

The department will notify fishermen by July 17 concerning run status and subsistence fishing schedules for Subdistricts 6-A, 6-B, and the Old Minto Area.

During subsistence salmon fishing closures, fish wheels may not be operated and gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or in Fairbanks call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Fairbanks at 459-7274 or in Emmonak at 949-1320.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.